## ABSTRACT

The present invention provides a catalyst for combustion treatment of suspended particulate matter in diesel exhaust gases, and a combustion catalyst for treating diesel exhaust gases in which a precious metal or an oxide thereof as the catalytic component is loaded on a carrier composed of oxide ceramic particles comprising ceria-zirconia or ceria-praseodymium oxide. In the present invention, depending on the carried precious metal, the carrier is preferably composed of oxide ceramic particles further comprising yttria or lanthanum oxide. The present invention provides a sufficient activity to combust suspended particulate matter in exhaust gases, and can cause combustion at a low temperature of about 300°C. It operates stably for a long period, and can burn suspended particulate matter, especially carbon microparticles.

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